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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5598th meeting of the Security Council, held on 19 December 2006, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council endorses the conclusions of the Addis Ababa high-level Consultation on the situation in Darfur of 16 November 2006 and the communiqué of the 66th meeting of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union held in Abuja on 30 November 2006. The Security Council welcomes the stated commitment of the Government of National Unity to the conclusions and the communiqué.

"The Security Council calls for the conclusions and the communiqué to be implemented by all parties without delay, and to this end calls on all parties to facilitate, per the Addis Ababa and Abuja agreements, the immediate deployment of the United Nations Light and Heavy Support Packages to the African Union Mission in the Sudan and a hybrid operation in Darfur, for which backstopping and command and control structures and systems will be provided by the United Nations. The Security Council requests the Secretary-General to keep the Council updated.

"The Security Council reaffirms its deep concern about the worsening security situation in Darfur and its repercussions in the region. It stresses that a peaceful settlement to the conflict in Darfur lies in a comprehensive approach with the concerted efforts of all relevant parties, in accordance with the Darfur Peace Agreement, and will contribute to restoring security and stability in the region."

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